canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 25, 29, 30, 33-36, 44, 68, 72, 73, 76-79, and 87 have been amended. Claims 1, 44, and 87 are independent.

Requested action

Applicants respectfully request the Office to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Applicants also respectfully request that this Amendment be entered. This Amendment could not have been presented earlier as it was earnestly believed that the claims on file would be found allowable. Given the Examiner's familiarity with the application, Applicants believe that a full understanding and consideration of this Amendment would not require undue time or effort by the Examiner. Moreover, for the reasons discussed below, Applicants submit that this Amendment places the application in condition for allowance. At the very least, it is believed to place the application in better form for appeal. Accordingly, entry of this amendment is believed to be appropriate and such entry is respectfully requested.

Rejections

Claims 1-8, 11-14, 19-27, 29, 30, 39-41, 44-51, 54-7, 62-70, 72-3, 82-4, and 87 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the art discussed at pages 1-4 of the application, referred to as "APA", in view of the patent to Moran, et al. Claims 9, 10, and 52-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the APA and the patent to Moran, et al. and in view of the patent to Fukui, et al. Claims 16-18 and 59-61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the APA and the

patent to Moran, et al. and in view of the patent to Barrett, et al. Claims 32-8, 42-3, 75-81, and 85-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the APA and the patent to Moran, et al. and in view of the patent to Bristor.

Response to rejections

In response, while not conceding the propriety of the rejections, independent Claims 1, 44, and 87 have been amended. Applicants submit that as amended, these claims are allowable for the following reasons.

Amended independent Claim 1 relates to an information processing apparatus comprising input means for entering information, first output processing means for performing one of a plurality of types of output processing as a first output processing operation on the information entered at the input means, storage means for storing output information which has been output by the first output processing means with the type of the first output processing as hysteresis data for the first output processing operation, data selection means for selecting one of the hysteresis data from the storage means, output processing selection means for selecting one of a plurality of types of output processing which is different from the first output processing as a second output processing operation, and second output processing means for performing the second output processing operation on the output information contained in the hysteresis data selected by the data selection means.

In contrast, neither the art discussed in the specification, nor the Moran, et al. patent are understood to disclose or suggest storage means for storing output information which has been output by first output processing means with the type of the first output

processing as hysteresis data for a first output processing operation, output processing selection means for selecting one of a plurality of types of output processing which is different from the first output processing as a second output processing operation, and second output processing means for performing the second output processing operation on the output information contained in hysteresis data selected by the data selection means for selecting one of the hysteresis data from the storage means, as recited by amended Claim 1. Rather, in the art disclosed in the specification only the same processing sequence is understood to be repeated; a second, different operation is not understood to be performed on output information contained in selected hysteresis data. And, the Moran, et al. patent is also understood to repeat the same processing; a second, different operation is not understood to be performed on output information contained in selected hysteresis data.

The failure of these references to disclose or suggest at least these features proves fatal to establishing a prima facie case of obviousness against amended Claim 1, since MPEP §2142, requires that:

> To establish a prima facie case of obviousness... the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations.

For this reason, amended independent Claim 1 is allowable over the art discussed in the specification and the patent to Moran, et al.

And since independent Claims 44 and 87 have been amended in a manner similar to Claim 1, they are allowable for similar reasons.

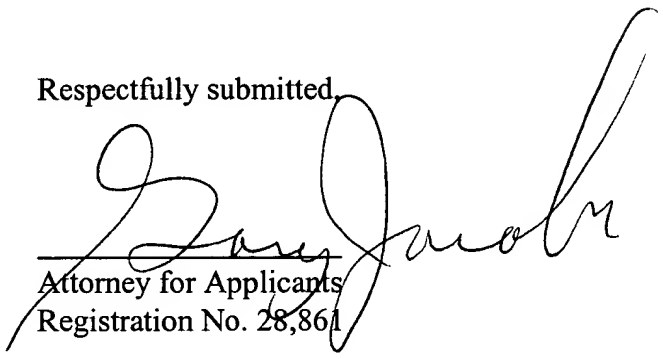
The dependent claims are allowable for the reasons given with respect to the independent claims and because they recite features which are patentable in their own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully solicited.

The dependent claims are allowable for the reasons given with respect to the independent claims and because they recite features which are patentable in their own right. Individual consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully solicited.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the claims are now in allowable form and entry of this Amendment is considered proper. Therefore, early passage to issue is respectfully solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (Twice Amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

input means for entering information;

first output processing means for performing one of a plurality of types of output processing as a first output processing operation on the information entered at said input means;

storage means for storing output information [processed] which has been output by said first output processing means with the type of the first output processing as hysteresis data for the first output processing operation;

data selection means for selecting one of the hysteresis data from said storage means;

output processing selection means for selecting one of a plurality of types of output processing which is different from the first output processing as a second output processing operation; and

second output processing means for performing the second output processing operation on the output information contained in the hysteresis data selected by said data selection means.

25. (Twice Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [a process] the first output processing operation performed by said first output processing means includes one of [reading of information,] printing, copying, displaying,

transmitting, and saving[, searching, pending, editing, deletion, condition change and setup change].

29. (Twice Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said [process] second output processing operation performed by said second output processing means is an output of an instruction to another apparatus to execute a predetermined process on the output information.

30. (Twice Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said [process] second output processing operation performed by said second processing means includes one of printing, displaying, transmitting, and saving[, pending, editing, deleting, changing of a hysteresis data saving period, condition change, a setup change, and update of knowledge].

33. (Twice Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [said process] the selection performed by said [second processing] data selection means includes a search for hysteresis data.

34. (Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 33, wherein [said process] the selection performed by said [second processing] data selection means includes display of a list of hysteresis data that are searched for and a selection of one of the hysteresis data in the list.

35. (Twice Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein [said process] the selection performed by said [second processing] data selection means includes display of a list of hysteresis data that are stored in said storage means.

36. (Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 35, wherein the selection [said process] performed by said data selection [second processing] means includes a process for selecting specific hysteresis data from said list of hysteresis data.

44. (Twice Amended) An information processing method comprising:

an input step of entering information;

a first output processing step of performing one of a plurality of types of output processing as a first output processing operation on the information entered at said input means;

a storage step of storing output information [processed] which has been output at said first output processing step with the type of the first output processing as hysteresis data for the first output processing operation;

a data selection step of selecting one of the hysteresis data stored at said storage step;

[a] an output processing selection step of selecting one of a plurality of types of output processing which is different from the first output processing as a second output processing operation; and

a second output processing step of performing the second output processing operation on the output information contained in the hysteresis data selected at said data selection step.

68. (Amended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein [a process] the first output processing operation performed at said first output processing step includes one of [reading of information,] printing, copying, displaying, transmitting, and saving [, searching, pending, editing, deletion, condition change and setup change].

72. (Amended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein said [process] second output processing operation performed at said second processing step is an output of an instruction to another apparatus to execute a predetermined process on the output information.

73. (Amended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein said [process] second output processing operation performed at said second processing step includes one of printing, displaying, transmitting, and saving [, pending, editing, deleting, changing of a hysteresis data saving period, condition change, a setup change, and update of knowledge].

76. (Amended) An information processing apparatus according to claim 44, wherein [said process] the selection performed at said [second processing] data selection step includes a search for hysteresis data.

77. (Amended) An information processing method according to claim 76, wherein [said process] the selection performed at said [second processing] data selection step

includes display of a list of hysteresis data that are searched for and a selection of one of the hysteresis data in the list.

78. (Amended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein [said process] the selection performed at said [second processing] data selection step includes display of a list of hysteresis data that are stored at said storage step.

79. (Amended) An information processing method according to claim 44, wherein [said process] the selection performed at said [second processing] data selection step includes a process for selecting specific hysteresis data from said list of hysteresis data.

87. (Amended) A computer-readable storage medium on which is stored an information processing program for permitting a computer to perform information processing, said program comprising codes for causing said computer to perform:

an input step of entering information;

a first output processing step of performing one of a plurality of types of output processing as a first output processing operation on the information entered at said input step;

a storage step of storing the output information [processed] which has been output at said first output processing step with the types of the first output processing as hysteresis data for the first output processing operation;

a data selection step of selecting one of the hysteresis data stored at said storage step;

[a] an output processing selection step of selecting one of a plurality of types of output processing which is different from the first output processing as a second output processing operation; and

a second output processing step of performing the second output processing operation on the output information contained in the hysteresis data selected at said data selection step.

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